

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted based from the Notice of Appeal filed on November 18, 2005. This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on May 18, 2005 where claims 1-15 were pending and rejected, and to the Advisory Action mailed on September 16, 2005, in reply to a Response after Final where the rejections of claims 1-15 were traversed. With this amendment, independent claims 1, 6, and 11 are amended and the remaining claims are unchanged.

Claims 11-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action stated that claim "11 is a computer program *per se*, and is not tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium." With this amendment, independent claim 11 is amended to include that the system includes "a plurality of logic elements embodied in a computer readable medium," as required in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 and its dependent claims 12-15 are in accordance with the Office Action requirements and 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller in view of Hunkins and in further view of TurboTax. Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims are patentably distinguishable from the prior art of record for at least the reason that any proposed combination of references does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claims.

For example, the independent claims have been amended in their respective elements (c) that "the extracted tax return data is provided to a legacy processing system from the first table and the extracted tax return data is provided to a corporate information database from the second table independently from the extracted tax return data from the first table." The Office Action included a section directed to limitations in elements (b) and (c) in independent claims 1, 6 and 11. The Office Action states that Miller fails to disclose these limitations. The Office Action also states that "Hunkins contemplates storing data in duplicate both within a single database, and between multiple databases in an organization. The benefit would have been to maintain multiple copies of critical information."

The amended claims set forth more than a method or system that just “maintain multiple copies of critical information” because they also specifically allocate distinct and independent uses and interconnections for each of the two tables, which are not shown or suggested in Hunkins or the other prior art of record. The amended features of the claims enable data extraction for the corporate information database and the legacy processing system to be performed independently of one another, features that are neither shown nor suggested in Hunkins or the other prior art of record. Hunkins describes automated synchronization of data within a database structure to optimize data integrity of duplicate data in various databases. The Advisory Action states that “tasking multiple copies of databases to different entities who then typically then periodically synchronize with one another” is well known. Nowhere does Hunkins or the prior art of record, however, teach or suggest extracting different portions of the data for varying databases within a network-based database interface for the independent use in completely different applications. Thus, they would not exist in any proposed combination of references.

In another example, the independent claims have been amended in their respective elements (d) that “a second set of fields from the plurality of fields is populated with results from calculations based on data entered into a first set of fields.” The Office Action also contained a section directed to the limitations in element (d) in independent claims 1, 6, and 11. The Office Action states that “Miller does not specifically teach (d).” The Office Action also states that Hunkins teaches that a single change order to administration only requires one update to a computer system having a centralized database. This computer then performs automatic update and synchronization of all external databases. “It would have been obvious . . . to combine the teachings of Miller and Hunkins because both relate to organizations that access multiple databases containing some duplicate data.” The amended claims are patentably distinguishable from Hunkins, and do more than access multiple databases containing some duplicate data. While certain fields in the forms are filled in based on data in the database, once these fields are filled in, then other fields are calculated based on this information. Thus, this alignment requires more than simply accessing multiple databases potentially containing some duplicate data.

Applicant also submit that the Turbo Tax reference was submitted to show limitations in elements (f) and (g) in independent claims 1, 6, and 11, and not to the elements (c) and (d)

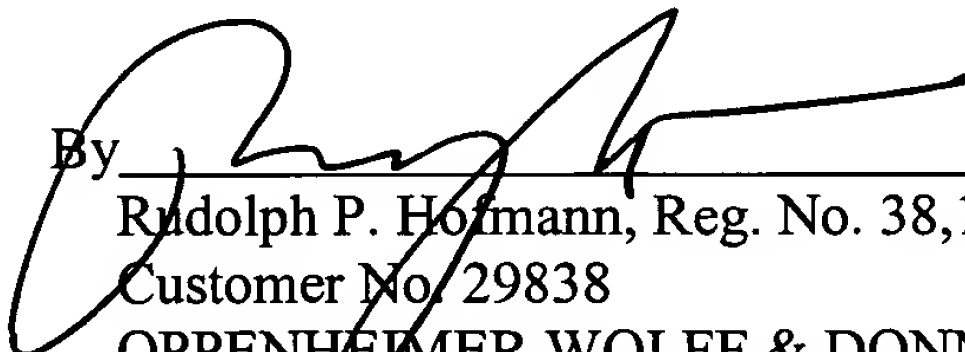
amended here. Furthermore, Turbo Tax does not teach or suggest the amended features of the claims, and thus the proposed combination of the three references does not show or suggest all of the features of the independent claims.

The amended features of the claims, among others, are not taught or suggested in Miller, Hunkins, or Turbo Tax and thus would not exist in any proposed combination of these references. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims and corresponding dependent claims are patentably distinguishable from the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (612) 607-7340. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees including fees for any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901 (Reference 60021-357801).

Respectfully submitted,

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